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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/760,395

01/21/2004

Sook-Young Kim

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08/24/2005

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EXAMINER

TRIEU, VAN THANH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/760,395

Applicant(s)

KIM, SOOK-YOUNG

Examiner

Van T. Trieu

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-5 and 7-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Moreno** [US 6,882,269].

Regarding claim 1, the claimed a home delivery service system, comprising:
a mailbox having a lock to lock said mailbox (the mailbox 120 or 206 having a lock 118, see Figs. 1 and 2, col. 4, lines 47-52 and col. 5, lines 6-7 and 35-38); and the external device in communication with the mailbox which controls opening and closing of the lock in accordance with a signal received from the external device (the controller 116, 214 or kiosk 202, see col. 3, lines 63-65, col. 7, lines 44-48 and col. 12, lines 65-67); and the key input unit in communication with the external device such that a set of figures can be input into the key input unit and the figures are transmitted to the external device (the PDA 112 for inputting and transmitting access ID code to the controller 116, 214 or kiosk 202, see Figs. 1 and 2, col. 4, lines 19-22 and col. 6, lines 26-38); and the web service provider in communication with an external communication network, and having registered therein a password transmitted from a communication device in communication with the external communication network (the web server 102 or

Art Unit: 2636

Internet 106 communicates with the controller 116, 214 or kiosk 202 to register access ID code or password transmitted from the PDA 112, see Figs. 1 and 2, col. 4, lines 19-22, col. 8, lines 55-58 and col. 9, lines 36-56); and the storage unit for storing the password (the memory 218, see Fig. 2, col. 8, lines 44-54); and the data processing or authentication unit in communication with the mailbox, and when the set of input figures transmitted to the mailbox match the password stored in the storage unit said data processing or authentication unit transmits an open-signal to the mailbox (the user verification device 114 or kiosk 202 comparing of the received access code with the authorized coded. If the comparison pass or matched code stored in memory 218 of the controller 116/214 or kiosk 202 will unlock the lock 118, see Figs. 1-4, col. 12, lines 65-67, col. 13, lines 66-67 and col. 14, lines 1-17).

Regarding claim 2, the claimed an electronic mail transmitting unit sends out a first electronic mail to the communication device based on a response signal from the mailbox, which reads upon the system notifies the customer of the mails or good delivery/pickup upon successfully open/unlock the mailbox 120 by e-mail, fax, phone message and paging, see Fig. 5A, col. 14, lines 29-35 and col. 18, lines 50-64.

Regarding claim 3, the claimed the lock is opened in accordance with the open signal (the position sensing signal determines whether a user has correctly opened and/or closed a mailbox locker 120, which enables the controller 116 or kiosk 202 to control

Art Unit: 2636

and monitor access to a mailbox locker 120, see col. 5, lines 53-57, col. 12, lines 65-67, col. 13, lines .66-67 and col. 14, lines 1-17).

Regarding claim 4, the claimed when the lock is closed, the mailbox transmits a close-signal to the data processing/authentication unit, and the data processing/authentication unit controls the electronic mail transmitting unit in accordance with the close-signal as received so that a second electronic mail is sent out to the communication device, which reads upon the controller 116/214 or kiosk 202 notifies the customer via a PDA that the mails or good delivery/pickup is completed and the mailbox 120 is closed, see Fig. 5A, col. 14, lines 29-35 and col. 18, lines 50-64.

Regarding claim 5, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 1 and 4 above, and including the data converting unit (the scanner 210 of retinal, fingerprint or voice is used to determine a user's identity and/or access authorizations, see Fig. 2, col. 7, lines 35-42).

Regarding claim 7, the method claimed limitations are met by the apparatus claim 1 above; See Figs. 3 and 4.

Regarding claim 8, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 2 and 7 above.

Art Unit: 2636

Regarding claim 9, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 3 and 8 above.

Regarding claim 10, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 4 and 9 above.

Regarding claim 11, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 1, 3 and 7 above.

Regarding claim 12, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 1 and 7 above.

Regarding claim 13, the claimed opening the mailbox and depositing a parcel in the mailbox after the open-signal is transmitted (the mailbox 120 is opened for receiving a parcel after the controller 116/214 or kiosk 202 provides an unlock/open signal to the mailbox 120, see Figs. 1-4, col. 4, lines 50-51 col. 12, lines 65-67, col. 13, lines 66-67 and col. 14, lines 1-17).

Regarding claim 14, all the claimed subject matters are cited in respect to claims 7 and 13 above.

Art Unit: 2636

Regarding claim 15, the claimed external device is a home gateway (the kiosk 202, see Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 16, the claimed external device comprises the storage unit (the memory 218, see Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 17, the claimed external device stores an electronic mail address of the communication device (the memory 218 stores customer addresses, e-mail address of the PDA or cellular phone, see Figs. 1 and 2, col. 4, lines 19-22, col. 6, lines 3-17 and 26-38, col. 7, lines 8-15 and col. 9, lines 50-56).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Moreno** [US 6,882,269] in view of **Smith et al** [US 6,192,282].

Regarding claim 6, **Moreno** fails to disclose the mailbox and the data processing or authentication unit is connected through a power line to carry out a power line communication. However, **Moreno** teaches that the kiosk 202 connected to at least one mailbox locker 120 via an Ethernet connection 204 and further connected to the

server via a digital subscriber line 220, see Figs. 1 and 2, col. 7, lines 8-12. **Smith et al** suggests that an improving building automation system comprising at least one communication channel provided to allow communication between the building automation subsystems such as IPC mailbox 335 and the programmable controllers through the power lines, which run through the building, see Figs. 1 and 2-4, col. 5, lines 54-67, col. 6, lines 1-10 and col. 19, lines 33-47. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute the building power line communication of Smith et al for the Ethernet line of Moreno for reducing cables or wires running throughout the building, office or household.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

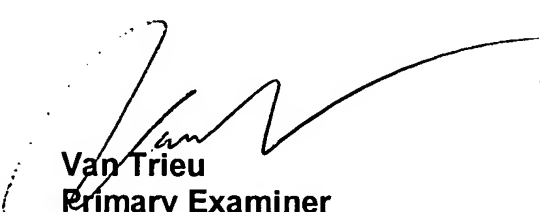
Kucharczyk et al discloses a request for an access code for a locking mechanism of a mailbox over the Internet/web and/or from a remote access unit. [US 6,696,918]

Plettner et al discloses a security locking the closing device such as mailbox from a remote controller via Internet or Web server. [WO 01/35358 A1]

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from examiner should be directed to primary examiner **Van Trieu** whose telephone number is (571) 272-2972. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Art Unit: 2636

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. **Jeffery Hofsass** can be reached on (571) 272-2981.



Van Trieu
Primary Examiner
Date: 8/19/05